

National Aeronautics and Space Administration

Headquarters

Washington, DC 20546-0001



October 31, 2006

Reply to Attn of: General Law Practice Group

TO: Distribution

FROM: Alternate Designated Agency Ethics Official

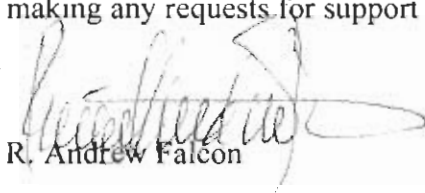
SUBJECT: Determination Regarding Attendance by NASA Employees at a Buffet Dinner Reception on November 3, 2006, at the National Air and Space Museum

On the evening of November 3, 2006, the National Air and Space Museum and OMEGA will host a dinner reception and program at the National Air and Space Museum Lockheed Martin IMAX Theater with a lecture on "An Evening with Astronauts Cernan, Schirra, and Stafford."

Approximately 200 people from NASA, other Federal agencies, academia, Congressional staff, aerospace companies, Smithsonian contributing members and NASM donors, and Omega Representative are expected to attend. The estimated cost per person is \$90, which includes a buffet dinner. I find that the event meets the requirements of a "widely attended gathering" as defined in 5 CFR § 2635.204(g).

I further determine that free attendance of NASA employees is in the best interests of the Agency because it will further NASA programs and operations. The event will provide an opportunity for NASA officials to discuss its space and earth science programs with other attendees. Accordingly, NASA employees whose duties do not substantially affect the co-sponsors or a majority of all of their members may accept an invitation for free attendance to the event for themselves and their invited spouses or guests.

In addition, there is a fundraising aspect to the event. As a reminder, you should avoid participating in any of the fundraising activities, including any promotional, production, or presentation activities, such as standing in a reception line. Employees should also avoid making any requests for support for the nonprofit organization.


R. Andrew Falcon